



PROJECT: Squaw Creek, Round Lake Beach, Illinois

AUTHORITY: N/A

TYPE: Continuing Authority (Sec. 205-Flood Damage Reduction)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Squaw Creek Watershed is in a rapidly growing portion of Lake County. At least 750 buildings and 41 major roads and bridges are subject to flooding that occurs every 2-5 years. The most recent severe event, in 1993, caused more than \$1.1 million in damages. As building in the basin continues, increased runoff is expected to increase the severity of the problem. However, the majority of the damages are caused by a tributary of Squaw Creek (Round Lake Drain). Storm flow in this tributary, even projected out to year 2020 (145 cubic feet per second [cfs] for the 10-year frequency storm) is in the range the Corps of Engineers considers to be a local drainage problem. This is well under the level the Corps of Engineers considers great enough to undertake an overbank flood damage reduction project (800 cfs).

CURRENT STATUS: The non-Federal sponsor has done a significant portion of work in the watershed, including detailed hydrologic and hydraulic models, detailed surveys to establish cross sections and structure elevations, and ortho-photo mapping of portions of the basin with 1-foot contours. However, this work was all done on the main stem of Squaw Creek, with none done on Round Lake Drain. Chicago District has made this assessment during the reconnaissance phase of the study. The District is continuing coordination with the local sponsor (the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission) to try to determine if there is any way the Corps can assist them with their real flood damage problem. However, it is problematical whether a Section 205 flood damage reduction project will be feasible.

PLANNED WORK:

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- Continue coordination with local sponsor
- Make final assessment of whether study should be continued, modified or dropped

PROJECT COST: N/A

BENEFITS: Flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration benefits to be determined

LOCAL SPONSORS: Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

ISSUES/CONCERNS:

- Project has support of Lake County Stormwater Management Commission and Congressman Philip Crane (R-IL-8)
- Major residential development planned and underway for the watershed
- Major flood damage area does not meet flow criteria for Corps of Engineers flood damage reduction project (800 cfs for 10-year frequency storm)

CONTRACTOR: N/A

PROJECT MANAGER: Mike Fisher